CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF EAGLE RUN – PHASE 3, DORCHESTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

CHICORA RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION 418

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ABSTRACT

This study reports on an intensive cultural resources survey of a 60 acre tract located in southwestern Dorchester County, South Carolina. The work was conducted to assist Mr. John Templeton of Special Properties comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800.

The tract, which borders Old Fort Road (S-662) to the south, an ATV trail to the north, and a developing neighborhood to the southeast, will be a continued development for single family occupancy. The surrounding area is being quickly developed with neighborhoods, schools, and commercial structures.

The proposed undertaking will require the clearing of the tract, followed by construction of various infrastructure elements, such as roads, stormwater drainage, and utilities. Individual lot construction will involve grading, additional utility construction, and subsequent building of structures. These activities have the potential to affect archaeological and historical sites and this survey was conducted to identify and assess archaeological and historical sites that may be in the project tract. For this study and area of potential effect (APE) 1.0 mile from the proposed tract was assumed.

An investigation of the archaeological site files at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology identified three previously recorded sites (38DR194, 38DR196, and 38DR141) in the APE.

Site 38DR194 is an eighteenth century British fort with powder magazine. The site was recorded in 1999 and recommended not eligible for the National Register. Site 38DR196 is a nineteenth century and unknown prehistoric scatter (Bridgman and Poplin 1999). It has been determined not eligible for the National Register. The final site, 38DR141, was first located in 1980 (Scurry 1980) and is positioned just west of the current project tract. The site, known as Tranquil Hill Plantation, was identified in a reconnaissance, but no subsurface testing was performed. No eligibility determination was given because the site was outside of the, at the time, area of impact. Scurry (1980) did say that the site "may potentially merit listing on the National Register of Historic Places," however it was too large to be closely examined.

The site was revisited in April of 2004 during which a cultural resources survey was performed (Trinkley and Southerland 2004). The site was determined eligible for the National Register in June of 2004 (letter dated June 22, 2004 from Valerie Marcil of the SHPO). Data Recovery was performed on the site from September through October of 2004.

The maps at the S.C. Department of Archives and History were also consulted to see if any National Register of Historic Places sites were in the vicinity of the project area. None were identified. A county-wide architectural survey was performed in 1997, so these records are thought to be complete (Fick 1997).

The archaeological survey of the tract incorporated shovel testing at 100-foot intervals on transects which were placed at 100-foot intervals along the ATV trail at the northern end of the tract. All shovel test fill was screened through ¼-inch mesh and the shovel tests were backfilled at the completion of the study. A total of 267 shovel tests were excavated along 25 transect lines.

As a result of these investigations, no sites were recorded. This is likely due to the low, occasionally to frequently flooded soils.

Finally, it is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered in the project area during clearing activities. Crews should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer, who should in turn report the material to the State Historic Preservation Office or to Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No construction should take place in the vicinity of these late discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

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INTRODUCTION

This investigation was conducted by Dr. Michael Trinkley of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. John Templeton of Special Properties in Charleston, South Carolina. The work was conducted to assist S&ME and their client with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800.

The project site consists of a 60 acre tract proposed to be used for residential development south of the city of Summerville, South Carolina (Figure 1). The survey area borders Old Fort Road (S-662) to the south and an ATV trail to the north (Figure 2). The western boundary is the recently evaluated Tranquil Hill Plantation (Trinkley and Southerland 2004).

The tract consists of low, slightly undulating topography. Hardwoods dominate the vegetation, however some areas of mixed pines and hardwoods are present. The surrounding area is somewhat rural, however, neighborhoods, schools, and businesses are being quickly developed.

The tract, as previously mentioned, is intended for a residential development. This work will require the construction of utilities such as electrical lines as well as an expanded road system when development begins. There will likely be increased short-term noise, traffic, and dust levels associated with the project. These activities have the potential to damage or otherwise affect any cultural resources that may be present on the tract.

This study, however, does not consider any future secondary impact of the project, including increased or expanded development of this portion of Dorchester County.

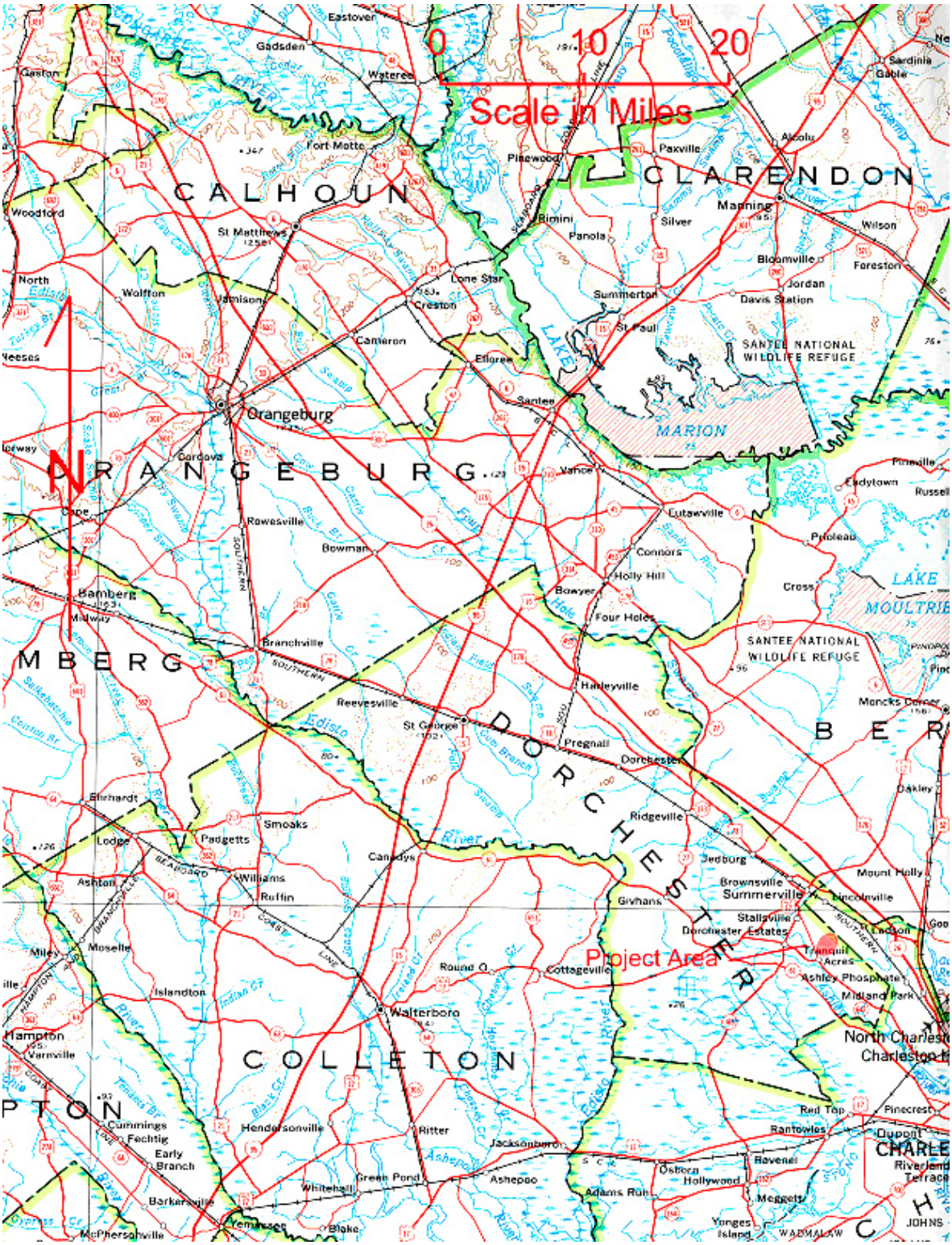
We were requested by Mr. Eric McClanahan of S&ME, Inc. to provide a proposal for the survey on September 13, 2004. A proposal was supplied to Special Properties on September 15. Fieldwork on the project began on October 20.

Initial background investigations incorporated a review of the site files at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. As a result of that work three previously recorded sites (38DR194, 38DR196, and 38DR141) were identified in the 1.0 mile APE. Site 38DR194 is an eighteenth century British fort with powder magazine. The site was recorded in 1999 and recommended not eligible for the National Register. Site 38DR196 is a nineteenth century and unknown prehistoric scatter (Bridgman and Poplin 1999). It has been determined not eligible for the National Register. The final site, 38DR141, was first identified in 1980 (Scurry 1980) and is located just west of the current project tract. The site, known as Tranquil Hill Plantation, was identified in a reconnaissance, but no subsurface testing was performed. Recent excavations have determined that the site is eligible for the National Register (see Trinkley and Southerland 2004) and data recovery has just been completed at the site.

Examination of architectural sites at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History failed to identify any previously recorded sites. No sites were found in the 1997 county-wide architectural survey (Fick 1997).

Archival and historical research was limited to a review of secondary sources available in the Chicora Foundation files, including research conducted for the Tranquil Hill survey tract.

The archaeological survey was conducted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Santee
Manning
Summerville
Walterboro
St George
Bamberg
Branchville
Holly Hill
Four Holes
Harleyville
Reevesville
Ridgeville
Jedburg
Pregnall
Dorchester
Cottageville
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Brownsville
Ashley Phosphate
Midland Park
Hampton
Islandton
Moselle
Ruffin
Williams
Smoaks
Padgetts
Canadys
Lodge
Ashton
Bowman
Rowesville
Cordova
Eutawville
Connors
Bowyer
Holly Hill
Jamison
Cameron
Elloree
Lone Star
Creston
Summerton
St Paul
Bimini
Panola
Silver
Pinewood
Paxville
Wateree
Gadsden
Eastover
Gaston
Fort Motte
St Matthews
Wolfton
Woodford
Bloomville
Jordan
Davis Station
Foreston
Wilson
Alcolu
Sardinia
Gable
Vance
Lady town
Pineville
Russell
Pineleaus
Cross
Moncks Corner
Oakley
Mount Holly
Lincolnville
Goose Creek
Charleston
North Charleston
Red Top
Pinecrest
Rantowles
Dupont
Ravenel
Hollywood
Osborn
Adams Run
Ashepoo
Jacksonboro
Ritter
Green Pond
Whitehall
Yemassee
Blake
McPhersonville
Barkerville
Early Branch
Fechtig
Cummings
Varnville
Hendersonville
Tenmile Br
Indian Cr
Coosaw River
Edisto River
Ashepoo River
Combahee River
Cypress Cr
Black Cr
Cooper River
Wando River
Goose Creek
Back River
Stony Creek
Four Hole Swamp
Sawmill Branch
Cedar Creek
Turkey Br
Rocky Br
Caw Caw Swamp
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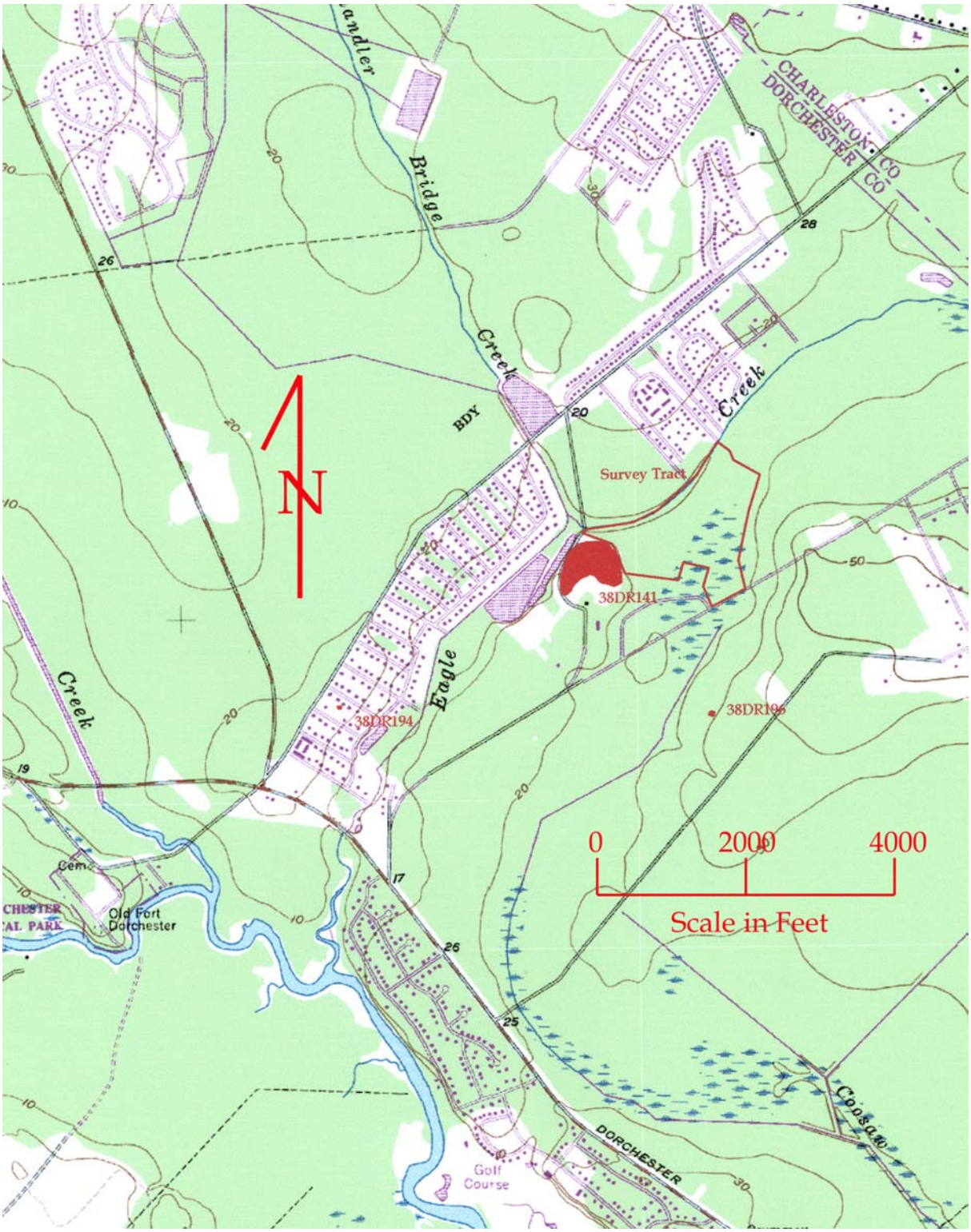

Figure 2. Project tract with previously identified sites (topographic map is USGS Stallsville 7.5').

from October 20-22, 2004 by Ms. Nicole Southerland, Mr. Tom Covington, and Ms. Virginia Livingston under the direction of Dr. Michael Trinkley.

This report details the investigation of the project area undertaken by Chicora Foundation and the results of that investigation.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Physiography

The project area is situated in the southeastern portion of Dorchester County, just west of the Berkeley County border. The project area is slightly undulating, however the elevation is significantly lower than the surrounding areas to the west (Tranquil Hill) and southeast (the neighborhood being developed).

Dorchester County is situated in the Lower Coastal Plain of South Carolina. It is bounded to the north by Orangeburg County, on the east by Berkeley County, on the south by Charleston County, and is separated from Colleton County on the west by the Edisto River. The county is drained by the Edisto and Ashley Rivers, with the project area itself drained directly into the Ashley River, just south of the project tract. Elevations in the county range from about 3 or 4 feet above sea level along parts of the Ashley River to about 120 feet above sea level near Reevesville (Eppinette 1990:1). Elevations in the project area range from about 10 to 20 feet above mean sea level (AMSL).

This portion of the Lower Coastal Plain contains nearly level soils. In a few small areas, primarily along major rivers and swamps, the soils are gently sloping. Less than 1 percent of the county is flooded daily or occasionally by saline water. All of the soils in the county were deposited or formed during the Pleistocene epoch. During this period, the ocean moved over the area, perhaps several times. As the ocean retreated, it left formations and terraces which indicate former shorelines and soils of different ages. The terraces in Dorchester County, from the sea to the inland, are the Recent, Pamlico, Talbot, Penholoway, Wicomico, and Sunderland. The project area is located in the Pamlico Terrace which ranges from sea level up to 25 feet above sea level (Eppinette 1990:89).

Figure 3. View of Eagle Creek to the north of the survey area.

Geology and Soils

The geology of the Lower Coastal Plain has been well described by Cooke (1936). Fluvial deposits of unconsolidated sands and clays dominate the area. Rocks are almost totally absent from the area, although Mills (1972[1826]:584) does note that some compact shell limestone was found on the Waccamaw between Gaul's Ferry and Bear Bluff.

Soils were

primarily formed during the Pleistocene epoch and several terraces were deposited (Dudley 1986:85). The project area is characterized by the Mouon-Brookman-Wahee Association, which has somewhat poorly drained to very poorly drained soils with a loamy surface layer over a loamy clay subsoil.

Figure 4. View of hardwoods in frequently flooded soils.

Two soil types are found on the project tract. The most abundantly found soil is Mouzon fine sandy loam. These soils, which are occasionally flooded, have an A horizon of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) fine sandy loam to a depth of 0.4 foot over a light gray (10YR7/1) loamy fine sand to a depth of 0.7 foot. The Mouzon soils have a water table at 0 to 1.0 foot below the surface.

The other soil type, Grifton fine sandy loam, is prone to flooding, but is found only in the western portion of the survey tract. The high water table is 0.5 to 1.0 foot below the surface. Grifton soils generally have an A horizon of dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) fine sandy loam to 0.5 foot in depth over a light gray (10YR7/2) fine sandy loam to just under 1.0 foot.

Climate

Elevation, latitude, and distance from the coast work together to affect the climate of South Carolina although Dorchester is clearly dominated by its proximity to the ocean. Much of the weather is controlled by the proximity of the Gulf Stream, about 50 miles offshore. In addition, the more westerly mountains block or moderate many of the cold air masses that flow across the state from west to east. Even the very cold air masses that cross the mountains are warmed by compression before they descend on the Coast.

Consequently, the climate of Dorchester County is temperate. The winters are relatively mild with a mean temperature of 48°F and the summers are hot and humid, with a mean temperature of 79°F and average humidity of 55%. Rainfall in the amount of about 50 inches is good for a broad range of crops. About 31 inches of rain (or 60% of the total) occurs during the growing season, April through September. The average growing season is about 223 days, although early freezes in the fall and late frosts in the spring can reduce this period.

Floristics

In the better drained areas of the county, native trees consist mainly of loblolly pine, longleaf pine, oak, and hickory. Sweet gum, blackgum, yellow poplar, maple, tupelo, ash, and cypress are in the wetter soils. Mills (1972[1826]:510) comments that,

> [an a]bundance of the finest pine timber is found in this district. Rafts of it are annually

> transported down the Edisto, to Charleston. Besides the pine, there are the live oak, poplar, cypress, beech, hickory, walnut, chestnut, and a variety of oak, the palmetto, and indeed all the different kinds of trees and shrubs common to the adjoining districts.

Mills, in the early nineteenth century, remarked that:

> South Carolina is rich in native and exotic productions; the varieties of its soil, climate, and geological positions, afford plants of rare, valuable, and medicinal qualities; fruits of a luscious, refreshing, and nourishing nature; vines and shrubs of exquisite beauty, fragrance, and luxuriance, and forest trees of noble growth, in great variety (Mills 1972:66).

Mills (1972[1826]: 66-85) also notes that a number of trees, such as loblolly pines, longleaf pines, red bay, red cedar, and live oaks, were used for the production of tar and turpentine, the construction of houses and ships, and furniture making. Cypress was also used for construction purposes, but became more difficult to obtain by the end of the eighteenth century when cypress swamps in the county were cleared and a system of dikes and ditches were constructed for rice fields. The tidal influence in the county was used to flood and drain the fields. Regarding tidal rice cultivation, Mills stated that "[t]he rice lands are very productive, yielding on an average two barrels, or 1400 pounds of rice to the acre," (Mills 1972[1826]: 505). He further stated that other swamp lands were "remarkably fine for raising cotton and corn; 600 to 800 pounds of see cotton being the usual product to the acre, and 20 to 30 bushels of corn" (Mills 1972[1826]: 505).

The project area's vegetation consists of mixed pines and hardwoods and areas with just hardwoods. The entire survey area is low and prone to flooding.

PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC BACKGROUND

Previous Research

Dorchester County has received rather spotty attention. Although 49 projects have been recorded in Derting et al. (1991), with 18 (38%) representing compliance work, very few sites have been recorded. The same lack of activity is true for the bordering Colleton County. However, nearby Charleston and Berkeley Counties have sites numbering into the thousands. It does not appear that Dorchester County has a lack of sites, but instead has lacked sufficient research.

This is not to say that Dorchester County does not have some significant archaeological sites. While not in the project APE, the Old Dorchester State Historic Site includes the parish church (38DR3), an underwater site containing two wharves (38DR169), the tabby fort (38DR4), a shipwreck (38DR170), and a burial of two individuals (38DR152). The identification of these sites took place from to 1995 and can be detailed in a number of reports including work by Carillo (1973, 1975, 1976), Harmon (1980, 1981), Brooks and Harmon (1981), and Hartley (1984).

Four surveys have been performed in the project APE. Three of these involve compliance reports (Bridgman and Poplin 1999; Rust 1999; Trinkley and Southerland 2004), while one was a management plan for the City of North Charleston (Hendrix et al. 2002). In addition, Data Recovery has been performed for Tranquil Hill Plantation (38DR141), located adjacent to the current survey area.

As previously mentioned, a county-wide architectural survey has been completed (Fick 1997), however no structures were found within the project APE.

The Prehistoric

The Paleoindian period, lasting from 12,000 to 8,000 B.C., is evidenced by basally thinned, side-notched projectile points; fluted, lanceolate projectile points; side scrapers; end scrapers; and drills (Coe 1964; Michie 1977; Williams 1965). The Paleoindian occupation, while widespread, does not appear to have been intensive. Artifacts are most frequently found along major river drainages, which Michie interprets to support the concept of an economy "oriented towards the exploitation of now extinct mega-fauna" (Michie 1977:124).

Unfortunately, little is known about Paleoindian subsistence strategies, settlement systems, or social organization. Generally, archaeologists agree that the Paleoindian groups were at a band level of society (see Service 1966), were nomadic, and were both hunters and foragers. While population density, based on the isolated finds, is thought to have been low, Walthall suggests that toward the end of the period, "there was an increase in population density and in territoriality and that a number of new resource areas were beginning to be exploited" (Walthall 1980:30).

The Archaic period, which dates from 8000 to 2000 B.C., does not form a sharp break with the Paleoindian period, but is a slow transition characterized by a modern climate and an increase in the diversity of material culture. Associated with this is a reliance on a broad spectrum of small mammals, although the white tailed deer was likely the most commonly exploited mammal. The chronology established by Coe (1964) for the North Carolina Piedmont may be applied with little modification to the South Carolina coastal plain and piedmont. Archaic period assemblages, exemplified by

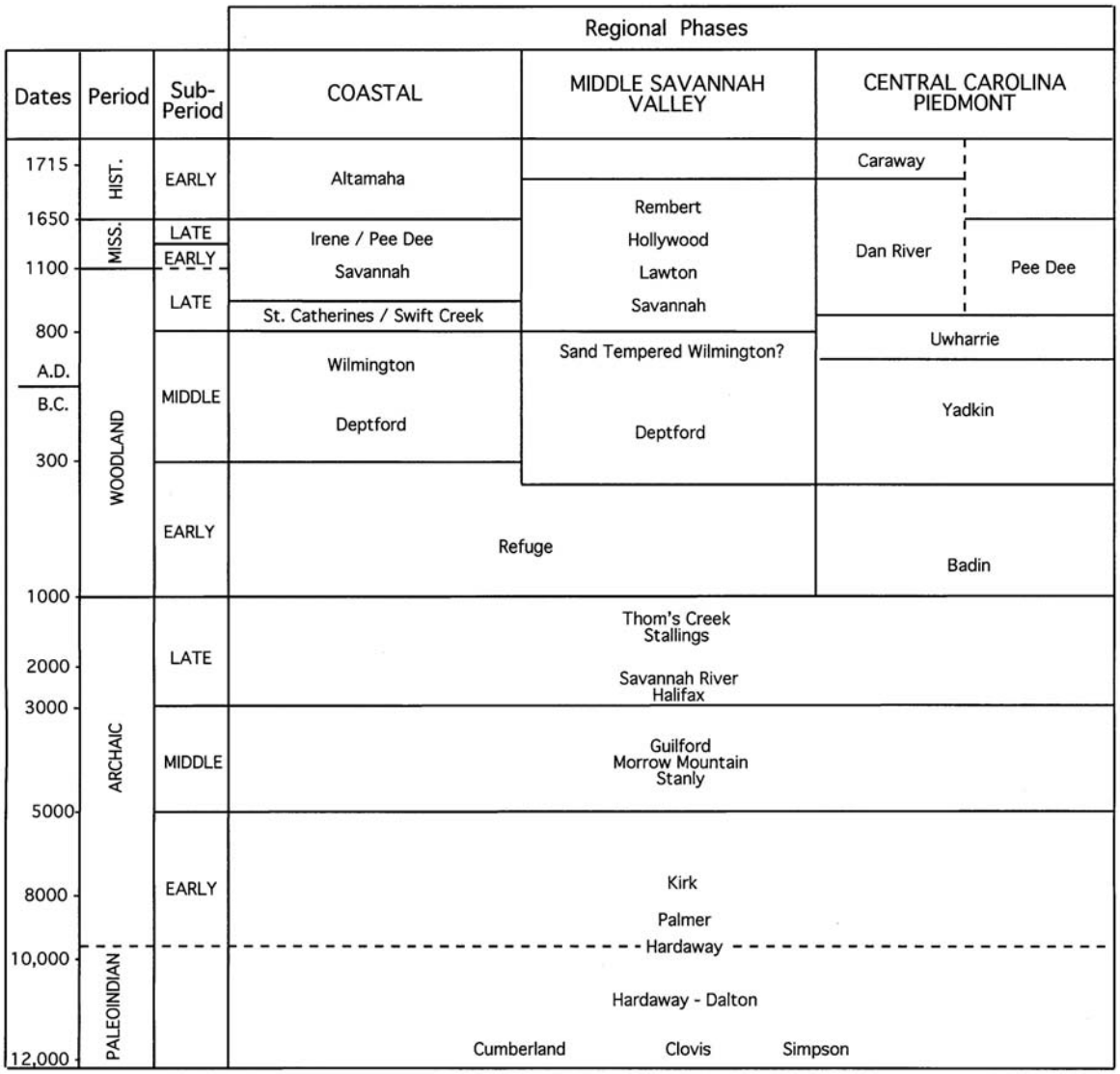

Figure 5. Generalized cultural sequence for South Carolina.

corner-notched and broad-stem projectile points, are fairly common, perhaps because the swamps and drainages offered especially attractive ecotones.

In the Coastal Plain of the South Carolina there is an increase in the quantity of Early Archaic remains, probably associated with an increase in population and associated increase in the intensity of occupation. While Hardaway and Dalton points are typically found as isolated specimens along riverine environments, remains from the following Palmer phase are not only more common, but are also found in both riverine and interriverine settings. Kirks are likewise common in the coastal plain (Goodyear et al. 1979).

The two primary Middle Archaic phases found in the coastal plain are the Morrow Mountain and Guilford (the Stanly and Halifax complexes identified by Coe are rarely

encountered). Our best information on the Middle Woodland comes from sites investigated west of the Appalachian Mountains, such as the work in the Little Tennessee River Valley. The work at Middle Archaic river valley sites, with their evidence of a diverse floral and faunal subsistence base, seems to stand in stark contrast to Caldwell's Middle Archaic "Old Quartz Industry" of Georgia and South Carolina, where axes, choppers, and ground and polished stone tools are very rare.

The Late Archaic is characterized by the appearance of large, square stemmed Savannah River projectile points (Coe 1964). These people continued the intensive exploitation of the uplands much like earlier Archaic groups. The bulk of our data for this period, however, comes from work in the Uwharrie region of North Carolina.

The Woodland period begins by definition with the introduction of fired clay pottery about 2000 B.C. along the South Carolina coast (the introduction of pottery, and hence the beginning of the Woodland period, occurs much later in the Piedmont of South Carolina). It should be noted that many researchers call the period from about 2500 to 1000 B.C. the Late Archaic because of a perceived continuation of the Archaic lifestyle in spite of the manufacture of pottery. Regardless of terminology, the period from 2500 to 1000 B.C. is well documented on the South Carolina coast and is characterized by Stallings (fiber-tempered) pottery (see Figure 5 for a synopsis of Woodland phases and pottery designations). The subsistence economy during this early period was based primarily on deer hunting and fishing, with supplemental inclusions of small mammals, birds, reptiles, and shellfish.

Like the Stallings settlement pattern, Thom's Creek sites are found in a variety of environmental zones and take on several forms. Thom's Creek sites are found throughout the South Carolina Coastal Zone, Coastal Plain, and up to the Fall Line. The sites are found into the North Carolina Coastal Plain, but do not appear to extend southward into Georgia.

In the Coastal Plain drainage of the Savannah River there is a change of settlement, and probably subsistence, away from the riverine focus found in the Stallings Phase (Hanson 1982:13; Stoltman 1974:235-236). Thom's Creek sites are more commonly found in the upland areas and lack evidence of intensive shellfish collection. In the Coastal Zone large, irregular shell middens, small, sparse shell middens; and large "shell rings" are found in the Thom's Creek settlement system.

The Deptford phase, which dates from 1100 B.C. to A.D. 600, is best characterized by fine to coarse sandy paste pottery with a check stamped surface treatment. The Deptford settlement pattern involves both coastal and inland sites.

Inland, sites such as 38AK228-W, 38LX5, 38RD60, and 38BM40 indicate the presence of an extensive Deptford occupation on the Fall Line and the Coastal Plain, although sandy, acidic soils preclude statements on the subsistence base (Anderson 1979; Ryan 1972; Trinkley 1980b). These interior or upland Deptford sites, however, are strongly associated with the swamp terrace edge, and this environment is productive not only in nut masts, but also in large mammals such as deer. Perhaps the best data concerning Deptford "base camps" comes from the Lewis-West site (38AK228-W), where evidence of abundant food remains, storage pit features, elaborate material culture, mortuary behavior, and craft specialization has been reported (Sassaman et al. 1990:96-98).

Throughout much of the Coastal Zone and Coastal Plain north of Charleston, a somewhat different cultural manifestation is observed, related to the "Northern Tradition" (e.g., Caldwell 1958). This recently identified assemblage has been termed Deep Creek and was first identified from northern North Carolina sites (Phelps 1983). The Deep Creek assemblage is characterized by pottery with medium to coarse sand inclusions and surface treatments of cord marking, fabric impressing, simple stamping, and net impressing.

Much of this material has been previously designated as the Middle Woodland "Cape Fear" pottery originally typed by South (1976). The Deep Creek wares date from about 1000 B.C. to A.D. 1 in North Carolina, but may date later in South Carolina. The Deep Creek settlement and subsistence systems are poorly known, but appear to be very similar to those identified with the Deptford phase.

The Deep Creek assemblage strongly resembles Deptford both typologically and temporally. It appears this northern tradition of cord and fabric impressions was introduced and gradually accepted by indigenous South Carolina populations. During this time some groups continued making only the older carved paddle-stamped pottery, while others mixed the two styles, and still others (and later all) made exclusively cord and fabric stamped wares.

The Middle Woodland in South Carolina is characterized by a pattern of settlement mobility and short-term occupation. On the southern coast it is associated with the Wilmington phase, while on the northern coast it is recognized by the presence of Hanover, McClellanville or Santee, and Mount Pleasant assemblages. The best data concerning Middle Woodland Coastal Zone assemblages comes from Phelps' (1983:32-33) work in North Carolina. Associated items include a small variety of the Roanoke Large Triangular points (Coe 1964:110-111), sandstone abraders, shell pendants, polished stone gorgets, celts, and woven marsh mats. Significantly, both primary inhumations and cremations are found.

On the Coastal Plain of South Carolina, researchers are finding evidence of a Middle Woodland Yadkin assemblage, best known from Coe's work at the Doerschuk site in North Carolina (Coe 1964:25-26). Yadkin pottery is characterized by a crushed quartz temper and cord marked, fabric impressed, and linear check stamped surface treatments. The Yadkin ceramics are associated with medium-sized triangular points, although Oliver (1981) suggests that a continuation of the Piedmont Stemmed Tradition to at least A.D. 300 coexisted with this Triangular Tradition. The Yadkin series in South Carolina was first observed by Ward (1978, 1983) from the White's Creek drainage in Marlboro County, South Carolina. Since then, a large Yadkin village has been identified by DePratter at the Dunlap site (38DA66) in Darlington County, South Carolina (Chester DePratter, personal communication 1985) and Blanton et al. (1986) have excavated a small Yadkin site (38SU83) in Sumter County, South Carolina. Research at 38FL249 on the Roche Carolina tract in northern Florence County revealed an assemblage including Badin, Yadkin, and Wilmington wares (Trinkley et al. 1993:85-102). Anderson et al. (1982:299-302) offer additional typological assessments of the Yadkin wares in South Carolina.

Over the years the suggestion that Cape Fear might be replaced by such types as Deep Creek and Mount Pleasant has raised considerable controversy. Taylor, for example, rejects the use of the North Carolina types in favor of those developed by Anderson et al. (1982) from their work at Mattassee Lake in Berkeley County (Taylor 1984:80). Cable (1991) is even less generous in his denouncement of ceramic constructs developed nearly a decade ago, also favoring adoption of the Mattassee Lake typology and chronology. This construct, recognizing five phases (Deptford I - III, McClellanville, and Santee I), uses a type variety system.

Regardless of terminology, these Middle Woodland Coastal Plain and Coastal Zone phases continue the Early Woodland Deptford pattern of mobility. While sites are found all along the coast and inland to the Fall Line, shell midden sites evidence sparse shell and artifacts. Gone are the abundant shell tools, worked bone items, and clay balls. Recent investigations at Coastal Zone sites such as 38BU747 and 38BU1214, however, have provided some evidence of worked bone and shell items at Deptford phase middens (see Trinkley 1990).

In many respects the South Carolina Late Woodland may be characterized as a continuation

of previous Middle Woodland cultural assemblages. While outside the Carolinas there were major cultural changes, such as the continued development and elaboration of agriculture, the Carolina groups settled into a lifeway not appreciably different from that observed for the previous 500 to 700 years (cf. Sassaman et al. 1990:14-15). This situation would remain unchanged until the development of the South Appalachian Mississippian complex (see Ferguson 1971).

The South Appalachian Mississippian Period (ca. A.D. 1100 to 1640) is the most elaborate level of culture attained by the native inhabitants and is followed by cultural disintegration brought about largely by European disease. The period is characterized by complicated stamped pottery, complex social organization, agriculture, and the construction of temple mounds and ceremonial centers. The earliest phases include the Savannah and Pee Dee (A.D. 1200 to 1550).

Historic Overview

The English established the first permanent settlement in what is today South Carolina in 1670 on the west bank of the Ashley River. Like other European powers, the English were lured to the New World for reasons other than the acquisition of land and promotion of agriculture. The Lord Proprietors, who owned the colony until 1719-1720, intended to discover a staple crop whose marketing would provide great wealth through the mercantile system.

By 1680 the settlers of Albemarle Point had moved their village across the bay to the tip of the peninsula formed by the Ashley and Cooper rivers. This new settlement at Oyster Point would become modern day Charleston. The move provided not only a more healthful climate and an area of better defense, but:

> [t]he cituation of this Town is so convenient for public Commerce that it rather seems to be the design of some skillful Artist than the accidental position of nature (Mathews 1954:153).

While the Indian trade was profitable to many of the Carolina colonists, it did not provide the proprietors with the wealth they were expecting from the new colony. Early agricultural experiments, which involved olives, grapes, silkworms, and oranges, were less than successful. Consequently, the cultivation of cotton, rice,

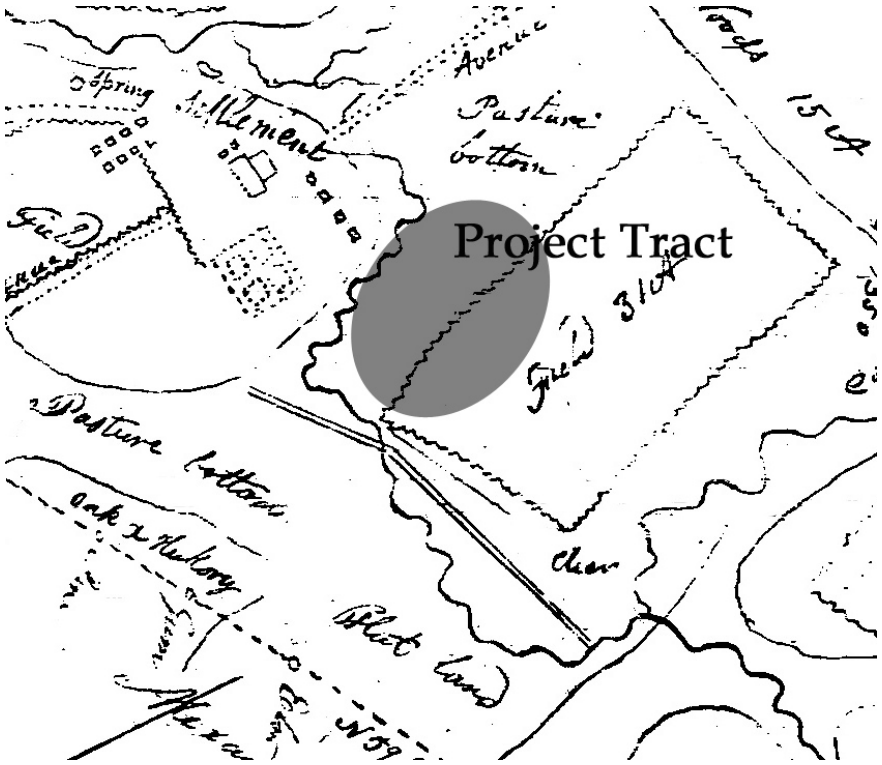

Figure 6. Portion of the 1800 McCrady Plat (4888) showing the project area as pasture bottom.

tobacco, and flax were stressed as these were staple crops whose marketing the proprietors could easily monopolize.

In 1696, further up the Ashley River, a grant of 1,800 acres on a peninsula of high land located between the Ashley River and the Boo-shoo-ee Creek (now Dorchester Creek, and also referred to as Boshoo or Boshoe Creek) was obtained by Massachusetts Congregationalists, and the town of Dorchester was established (Carillo 1973:5). Dorchester, located at the navigable head of the Ashley River became a center for trade and the distribution of goods (Walker 1941:50). Trade between local farmers, artisans, and merchants, and a lucrative deerskin trade comprised Dorchester's economy (Beck 1998:2). Naval stores, such as tar, pitch, and lumber were also exported from Dorchester.

The Congregationalist Church obtained 2,250 additional acres between 1699 and 1700, making the total acreage associated with the Congregationalist Church 4,050 acres (Smith 1905:70-72). Diaries belonging to elders of the church show that not all original occupants of the Dorchester settlement were associated with the Congregationalists, with "others that were concerned" also drawing lots for land divisions in the settlement along with church members (Smith 1905:72). Land was set aside in Dorchester for a "place of trade," a public square and streets, and a "commons" (Smith 1905:72-73). The space where the creek enters the river was also set aside for public use, and an additional 123 acres north of the town along Boshoe Creek was set aside for mill purposes.

Construction of a permanent brick church, called the "White meeting House" was begun sometime after 1700. During this time, the town began to grow and soon a number of merchants had established themselves in Dorchestertown (Smith 1905:79). New settlers to Dorchester received grants higher up and across the Ashley River. In 1706, the Act for the establishment of the Church of England in the Province was passed, resulting in the creation of six parishes, including St. Andrew's Parish, to which Dorchester belonged. By 1708, the town contained about 350 people.

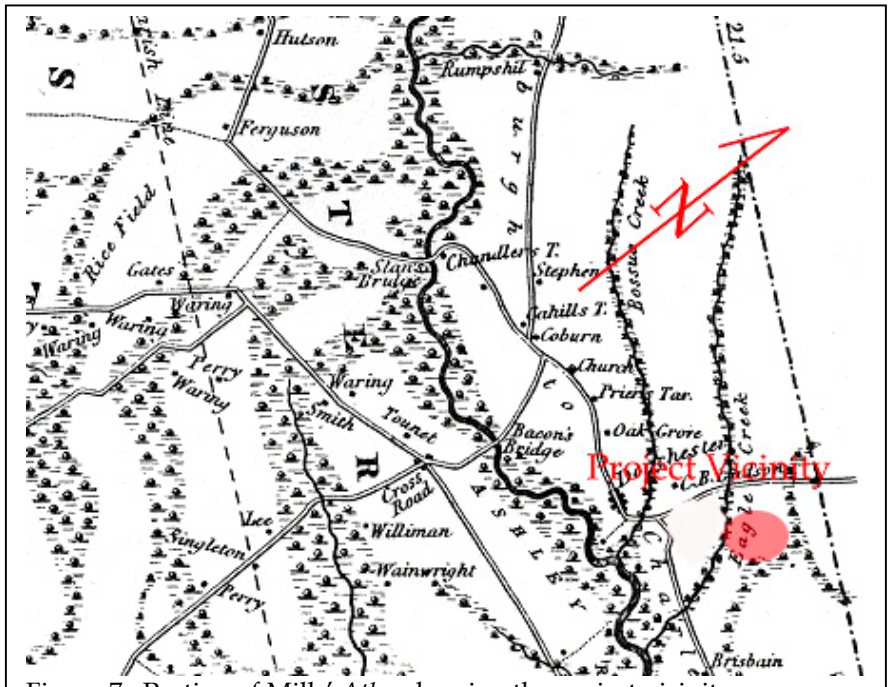

Figure 7. Portion of Mills' *Atlas* showing the project vicinity.

In 1719, St. Andrew's Parish was divided and Dorchester became part of the St. George Parish, with 115 English families, including 500 persons and 1,300 slaves, living in the town (Smith 1905:80). Estate inventories show that both Anglicans and dissenters in Dorchester owned slaves (Beck 1998:2). According to an advertisement in the *South Carolina Gazette*, more than 300 African slaves from Angola were brought to Dorchester to be sold in order to avoid a smallpox epidemic in Charleston (Beck 1998:2).

Rice soon became more profitable than earlier crops in Dorchester, increasing the wealth of planters (Beck 1998:3), and encouraging the large scale introduction of slavery. Although introduced at least by the 1690s, rice did not become a significant staple crop until the early eighteenth century. At that time it not only provided the proprietors with an economic base the mercantile system required, but it was also to form the basis of South Carolina's plantation system (Carpenter 1973). The majority of the slaves owned in Dorchester were concentrated in the surrounding plantations, with fewer slaves owned by merchants and artisans in the township (Beck 1998:3). Many plantations sprung up along the Ashley River, including Middleton Place, Archdale, Chatsworth, Spring Farm and Cedar Grove (Walker 1941:23).

In 1719, a Statute for constructing a Church of England was enacted, and 150 acres were purchased for the church grounds. By 1734, the church repairs and the construction of the parsonage house were undertaken. The town's growth also enabled the construction of roads into the surrounding country and bridges over the Ashley River. Other Acts, in 1723 and 1734, were passed for establishing a fair and markets, and founding a free school. However, the school and housing for the school's master were not constructed until 1758.

Between 1752 and 1756, overcrowding within Dorchester and concerns over the unhealthiness of the area led the Congregationalists to move to Georgia, without a marked decrease to Dorchester's importance as a locus of trade and distribution. The exodus of the entire congregation however, meant that the "White Meeting House" church was no longer used for church services, and sat vacant until later in the century (Smith 1905:92).

During this time, Dorchester was also affected, though not directly, by the increased hostilities in the country associated with the French and Indian Wars. Preparations took place in the state to develop fortifications and additions to existing coastal defense works at Port Royal, Winyaw, Fort Johnson, and Dorchester (Carillo 1973:7). A magazine and wall at Dorchester began construction in the late 1750s, with construction ceasing after 1760 most likely due to the decline of anxiety and tension in this area. The tabby fort built to assuage fears of attacks from native Americans is till standing at the Old Dorchester State Historic Site on the high bank of the Ashley River (Beck 1998:1). The fort was constructed on the north side of the Ashley River in an area that comprised the extreme southern portion of the town of Dorchester. Carillo (1973:13) describes the

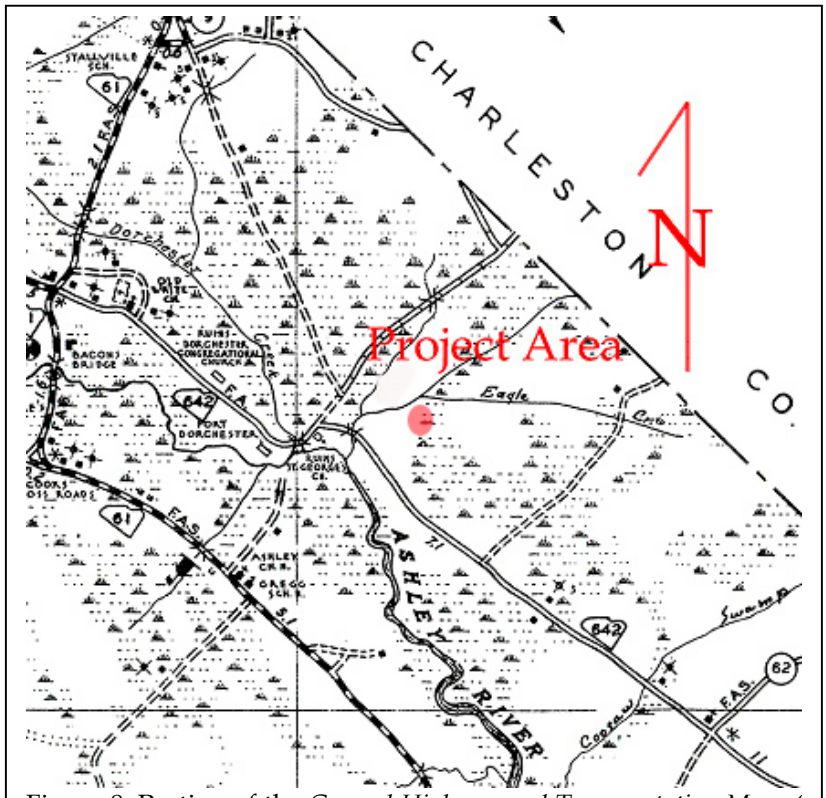

Figure 8. Portion of the *General Highway and Transportation Map of Dorchester County* showing the project area.

tabby fort as a "flanked redoubt" which "resembles a pin wheel having four straight or slightly angling sides" (Carillo 1973:13).

South Carolina's economic development during the pre-Revolutionary War period involved a complex web of interactions between slaves, planters, and merchants. By 1710 slaves outnumbered free people in South Carolina and by the 1730s slaves were beginning to be concentrated on a few, large slave-holding plantations. By the close of the eighteenth century some South Carolina plantations had a ratio of slaves to whites that was 27:1 (Morgan 1977).

With the onset of the Revolutionary War, Dorchester was named as a possible armed post and by December 9, 1775, the Council of Safety of the Second Provincial Congress issued an order for manning the post with troops and militia (Carillo 1973:10).

With American forces defending Charleston, Dorchester was occupied twice by the British in 1780 and 1781. Dorchester was sacked and burned on December 1, 1781 when the British learned of an impending attack and retreated to Charleston (Carillo 1973:10).

Within five years of the Revolutionary War, Dorchester decayed rapidly (Smith 1905:86). According to Smith, this decline was due to several factors including the growth of the middle and upper country and the extension of the frontier, the development increased use of roads, the town's unsuitability for summer resorts for nearby planters, the planters' reliance on Charles Town for business needs rather than Dorchester, and the infertile land surrounding Dorchester (Smith 1905:85). The demise of Dorchester was facilitated by the growth of the town of Summerville by planters from the area who built houses and summer settlements there.

By 1832, Summerville had grown to the extent that the area was referred to as an "Old Summerville" and a "New Summerville" when the SC Canal and Railroad Company began building a railroad line (Walker 1941:78). Growth continued in the general area, prompting the creation of new counties. In 1800, Colleton County was formed from parts of Charleston County. A plat from this year (McCrady 4888) shows Tranquil Hill Plantation to the west of the tract, but the current survey area is labeled as "pasture bottom" (Figure 6). Mills' *Atlas* from 1825, which places the project area in Colleton County, fails to show any structures in the immediate project area (Figure 7). At this time Summerville was part of Charleston County. By 1897, Dorchester County was formed from parts of Colleton and Berkeley County. Summerville continued to grow and by 1939, the South Carolina State Highway and Transportation Map shows the town to have a population of 3,023. This map also shows that there were no structures located in the project area at this time (Figure 8). These maps indicate that while Summerville grew, the area near the old town of Dorchester was not actively developed in the early 1900s, and the project area also showed a lack of development.

Project Tract

The only historical research conducted for the project tract is that by H.A.M. Smith (1988b:152-155). While the tract begs for far more detailed historic documentation (Smith 1988a:22 notes that the site is "noteworthy for its choice site and elaborate gardens") this survey provides only baseline data for evaluation purposes.

Smith explains that the property, amounting to210 acres, was first granted to James Varine in February 1683/4. Although it appears Varine took possession of the property it was soon afterwards abandoned and a new warrant laid out to Edward Jones: "The above Land is Situated on the north Side of the Ashley River joyneing or bounding to George Barnetts & Paul Parkers Land yt: was the said two hundred & ten acres was formerly in the possession of Mr: James Verion in Barkley County (Smith 1988b:152-153; see also Proprietary Grants 38:150). Smith goes to recount a number of additional grants in this same area that were apparently to either Jones or his wife,

perhaps totaling 820 acres.

By uncertain means much of this property was then acquired by Col. Charlesworth Glover, an Indian Trader, possibly with part of an additional grant. Smith estimates that Glover owned about 600 acres. With his death in 1732/3 the plantation was advertised for sale:

> To be sold at Vendue on the 22d of March a Plantation within a mile of Dorchester Town belonging to Col Glover's Estate Containing 600 acres of very good planting land with a beautiful Dwelling-House 45 Foot long and 35 Foot wide 2 floors 4 rooms on a Floor with Buffets Closets &c a dry6 cellar underneath with several and Convenient Rooms pleasantly Scituated a good Pasture Barn Negro houses &c (*S.C. Gazette*, February 17-24, 1723/4; quoted in Smith 1988b:153-154).

The property was acquired by Malachi Glaze – either from the sale or through his marriage to Glover's widow. Smith provides virtually no information concerning his ownership, except that he died in 1740 and his ownership is based on a November 25, 1749 map that states Glaze's executors sold 473 acres off the tract to Dr. Robert Dunbar (Smith 1988b:154).

Smith then recounts the property passing through a variety of hands:

> Dr. Robert Dunbar . . . conveyed to Mary Langley who transferred to Adam Daniel, whose Executors on 8 April 1768 conveyed to Daniel Huger, and also with his wife Margaret conveyed on 1 March 1773 to Daniel Huger 53 acres off the "Eagles" tract. Daniel Huger with Binkey his wife on 2 December 1773 conveyed to Richard Waring the whole 526 acres (Smith 1988b:154).

With the acquisition of the property by Richard Waring in 1773 the tract, previously known as "White Hall," became "Tranquil Hill." Waring was the son of Thomas Waring and Susanna Smith and was born on April 10, 1748 (Smith 1988b:154). Middleton (1953:171), however, reports that Richard (1748-1781) was the son of Richard and Sarah Waring Waring – so clearly some additional genealogical research is necessary.

In 1768 he married Anne Branford, who died within a year of their marriage. Waring then married Ann, daughter of John Coming Ball, in 1771. Waring died in 1781, but his widow, Mrs. Ann Waring, continued living on the plantation until her death in 1826.

During her tenure the property was described as:

> the most charming inland place, (with its numerous shady walks, its meandering creek, stylish gate and bridge) within the lower part of the State . . . a palatial mansion, and elegant residence, rendered more attractive by its beautiful southern courtyard, with its gravelled walks, enclosed with living box, and containing flowers of every hue and tropical fragrance. To the warm, youthful feelings, the gardens were Hesperian, beautiful with beds of flowers, embowered walks, cool retreats and alcove seats. The widely extended fields were perfectly Elysian" (Mrs. Poyas, *Our Forefathers*, pg. 101, quoted in Smith 1988b:154).

Smith notes that the Warings left no children and he did not continue to trace the title

after 1826, although it appears that the property fell into rapid decline. He comments that when he first visited the property in 1883, it was already under cultivation:

> The site of the house is marked by a loose mass of broken brick; the walls of box, the flowers, the "stylish gate and bridge" were all gone. The meandering creek remained, and the fine house site rising boldly from the bed of the lowland. Since then the whole space around the remnants of the chimney hearth have been turned into a cultivated field, and the plough share driven over the hospitable halls of "beautiful Tranquil Hill." (Smith 1988b:155).

Currently the best view of the plantation is provided by an 1800 John Diamond plat of 507 acres (McCrady Plat 4888, Figure 6). This plat shows a variety of fields and settlement areas. The survey tract is off the main plantation settlement and in an area identified as "pasture bottoms" and "fields." While this plat provides a land history frozen in time, the low elevations suggest that the examined parcel was never used for settlement.

RESEARCH METHODS AND FINDINGS

Archaeological Field Methods and Findings

The initially proposed field techniques for the project area involved the placement of shovel tests at 100-foot intervals along transects placed at 100-foot intervals along the existing ATV trail to the north of the tract.

All soil would be screened through ¼-inch mesh, with each test numbered sequentially. Each test would measure about 1 foot square and would normally be taken to a depth of at least 1.0 foot or until subsoil was encountered. All cultural remains would be collected, except for mortar and brick, which would be quantitatively noted in the field and discarded. Notes would be maintained for profiles at any sites encountered.

Should sites (defined by the presence of three or more artifacts from either surface survey or shovel tests within a 50 feet area) be identified, further tests would be used to obtain data on site boundaries, artifact quantity and diversity, site integrity, and temporal affiliation. These tests would be placed at 25 to 50 feet intervals in a simple cruciform pattern until two consecutive negative shovel tests were encountered. The information required for completion of South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology site forms would be collected and photographs would be taken, if warranted in the opinion of the field investigators.

Transects were placed along the ATV trail from west to east with shovel tests running south. A total of 267 shovel tests were excavated within the project area on 25 transect lines (Figure 9).

Sites would be evaluated for further work based on the eligibility criteria for the National Register of Historic Places. Chicora Foundation only provides an opinion of National Register eligibility and the final determination is made by the lead agency in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

Analysis of collections followed professionally accepted standards with a level of intensity suitable to the quantity and quality of the remains.

Nevertheless, the archaeological survey of the tract failed to identify any remains. This is most likely due to the flood prone soils.

Architectural Survey

As previously discussed, we elected to use a 1.0 mile area of potential effect (APE). The architectural survey would record buildings, sites, structures, and objects that appeared to have been constructed before 1950. Typical of such projects, this survey recorded only those which have retained "some measure of its historic integrity" (Vivian n.d.:5) and which were visible from public roads.

For each identified resource we would complete a Statewide Survey Site Form and at least two representative photographs were taken. Permanent control numbers would be assigned by the Survey Staff of the S.C. Department of Archives and History at the conclusion of the study. The Site Forms for the resources identified during this study would be submitted to the S.C. Department of Archives and History.

Site Evaluation and Findings

Archaeological sites will be evaluated for further work based on the eligibility criteria for the National Register of Historic Places. Chicora Foundation only provides an opinion of National Register eligibility and the final determination is

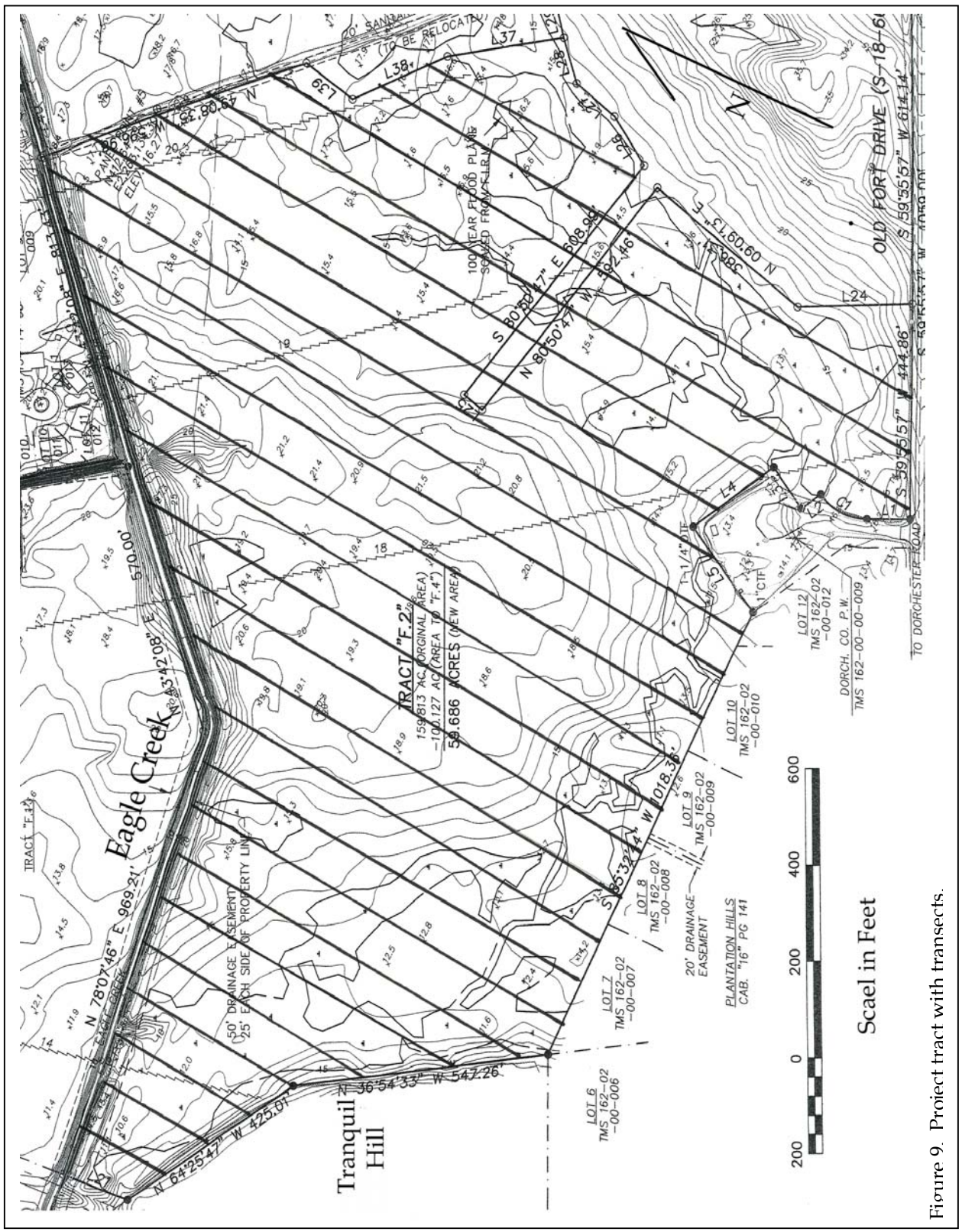

Figure 9. Project tract with transects.

Figure 10. Shovel testing in the project area.

made by the lead federal agency, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

The criteria for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places is described by 36CFR60.4, which states:

> the quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and
>
> a. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
>
> b. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
>
> c. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
>
> d. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

National Register Bulletin 36 (Townsend et al. 1993) provides an evaluative process that contains five steps for forming a clearly defined explicit rationale for either the site's eligibility or lack of eligibility. Briefly, these steps are:

- identification of the site's data sets or categories of archaeological information such as ceramics, lithics, subsistence remains, architectural remains, or sub-surface features;
- identification of the historic context applicable to the site, providing a framework for the evaluative process;
- identification of the important research questions the site might be able to address, given the data sets and the context;

- evaluation of the site's archaeological integrity to ensure that the data sets were sufficiently well preserved to address the research questions; and

- identification of important research questions among all of those which might be asked and answered at the site.

This approach, of course, has been developed for use documenting eligibility of sites being actually nominated to the National Register of Historic Places where the evaluative process must stand alone, with relatively little reference to other documentation and where typically only one site is being considered. As a result, some aspects of the evaluative process have been summarized, but we have tried to focus on an archaeological site's ability to address significant research topics within the context of its available data sets.

The survey failed to identify any structures that were in the APE which contain enough integrity to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The 1997 comprehensive survey also failed to identify any eligible structures in the project vicinity (Fick 1997).

CONCLUSIONS

This study involved the examination of approximately 60 acres of land in southeastern Dorchester County be used for a neighborhood of single family homes. This work, conducted for Mr. John Templeton of Special Properties examined archaeological sites and cultural resources found in the proposed project area and is intended to assist their client in complying with their historic preservation responsibilities.

As a result of this investigation, no archaeological sites were identified. This is likely due to the flood prone soils that make up the entire tract.

A survey of public roads within 1.0 mile confirmed the findings of the 1997 county-wide survey (Fick 1997). No structures were found in the project APE.

It is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered during construction activities. As always, contractors should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer, who should in turn report the material to the State Historic Preservation Office, or Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No further land altering activities should take place in the vicinity of these discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

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